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2015 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
PUBLISHED June 2016

The Lanesborough Village Fire and Water District is required by federal law to submit an Annual Consumer Confidence Report to its customers. We have provided this report every year since 2000. The data presented in this report is from required tests at our wells and at designated residences. In our opinion, the data indicates that our normal water quality is excellent. We are required; however, to provide you with this information so you can make your own personal health decision regarding water consumption. LFWD is an EOE.

YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

The Water District receives its water from two gravel packed wells located in the valley west of Route 7 in Lanesborough. Both wells are at an elevation of approximately 1120 feet.

- Miner Road, the main water source, is an 18-inch diameter by 67 foot deep well, which has a pump yield of 10 gallons per second or 600 gallons per minute
- Bridge Street, the standby water source, is an 8-inch diameter by 54 foot deep well, which has a pump yield of 5 gallons per second or 300 gallons per minute.

Lanesborough has one water storage facility, the 750,000-gallon above ground concrete tank located on Prospect Hill, which is in the northwest quadrant of the Town at an elevation of some 1420 feet. This storage facility is equipped with high and low water switches, which turn the pumps on and off to control the water level in the tank. This feature is particularly important in providing as high a volume as possible for fighting fires. As part of the planned upgrades to the system, the main distribution lines have been replaced with 12-inch diameter coated steel pipe. This work was completed in 2003 and has greatly reduced the frequency of water main breaks.

SUBSTANCES FOUND IN TAP WATER

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring mineral, and in some cases, radioactive material. It may pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in the source water may include:

- Microbial contaminants – such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture livestock operations or wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants – such as salts and metals, which may be naturally occurring or the result of urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides – which may result from a variety of sources such as agricultural or urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may come from gas station spills, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants – which may be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by calling EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as individuals with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV / AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and some infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. EPA / Center for Disease Control guidelines are important to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, and are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Well Head protection Area – The primary protection area around a public water supply (pws) and is known as Zone 1. Zone 1 is the 400-foot radius around a well or well field, which must be owned or controlled by the water supplier using conservation restrictions.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's (see below) as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Treatment Technique (TT) - required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

INFORMATION ON LEAD

Although lead is not present in any significant quantity in the water supplied to our customers, plumbing within the home may add lead to the water. Therefore, the following informative statement is included in this report for your information:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lanesboro Fire & Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

KEY: AL = ACTION LEVEL	MCL = MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL
MCLG = MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL	PCi/l = PICOCURIES PER LITER (measure of radioactivity)
PPM = PARTS PER MILLION (milligrams per liter)	PPB = PARTS PER BILLION (micrograms per liter)

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	MCL	MCLG	RANGE OF DETECTION	LEVEL FOUND	POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION	NUMBER OF SAMPLES
NITRATE PPM	10	10	ND.0.82	0.82	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks.	2
SODIUM	NONE	NONE	26.3-27	26.6	Natural Occurring	2
FLUORIDE	4	4	0.05-ND	0.05	Erosion of natural Runoff	2
CHROMIUM	0.1	NONE	0.0010	0.0010	Trace Mineral Natural Occurring	2

LEAD AND COPPER

There were no lead and copper sites that exceeded the action levels.

DATE	CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	90TH percentile	NUMBER OF SITES SAMPLED	NUMBER OF SITES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION	VIOLATION (YES-NO)
2015	LEAD	15	0	0.0029	12	0	Corrosion of Household Plumbing	NO
2015	COPPER PPM	1.3	1.3	0.078	12	0	Corrosion of Household Plumbing	NO

ADDITIONAL 2014 TEST RESULTS: Coliform tests were performed on samples taken from 5 locations designated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), for a total of 60 tests per year. One sample in October tested positive for total coliform bacteria and negative for E.coli. LFWD took 5 more samples in October which all tested negative for both bacteria and E. Coli. From November to the present time, neither total coliform bacteria nor E coli have been detected in any samples. Third quarter samples from both wells were also tested for nitrite, volatile organic compounds and perchlorate, and the Miner Road well was also tested for volatile petroleum hydrocarbons extractable petroleum hydrocarbons and asbestos and synthetic organic compounds. All results were either non-detect or well below the MCL.

DRINKING WATER VIOLATIONS

We are required to monitor our drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During October 2015 the LFWD had one sample which tested positive for total bacteria. Therefore the LFWD cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time. The LFWD received a letter of NON Compliance for October 2014, and another letter NON Compliance for not sending out the Consumer Confidence Report by July 01, 2015. The LFWD is required to report these violation to you.

NOTES

Outside Watering Tips – The best time to water is in the morning. Less water is lost through evaporation at that time. Avoid watering during mid-day; try not to water in the evening. A lawn remains damp during the night, which promotes disease. Water can be conserved by not watering unless your garden really needs it.

Security Measures – Security measures have been taken to protect the valuable drinking water resources. Additional measures have been taken to insure that the Lanesborough Water District wells and tanks are protected. These include the installation of alarms and the continual patrolling of protected areas.

Cross Connection - A cross connection is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted source. The pollution can come from your own home (hooking up your hose to a sprayer that contains fertilizer). If the water pressure drops at the same time you turn on the hose, the fertilizer may be sucked back into the drinking water pipes through the hose. This problem can be prevented by using an attachment on your hose called a *backflow-prevention device*. The E.P.A. requires the installation of backflow prevention devices, such as a low cost hose bib vacuum breaker, for all inside and outside hose connections. You can purchase this at a hardware store or plumbing supply store. This is a great way for you to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water system in your town! For additional information on cross connections, please contact *Dave Santolin at the District office, 442-5916.*

Source Water Protection - The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has completed a source water assessment for all Lanesborough Municipal drinking water sources. This report identifies land uses within water supply protection areas that may be potential sources of contamination. The overall ranking of susceptibility to contamination in Lanesborough Water District drinking water sources are high, due to land uses, underground storage tanks, agricultural activities and storm water drains. *Copies of this report are available at the Water District office on 20 Bridge Street.*